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It is probable that the State will "endeavor to retain after the war many of the emergency powers it has acquired during the war." In some directions, particularly in the field of taxation, an extension of powers will come and the capitalistic group will endeavor "to put high protection on the country under the guise of national security, imperial unity, punishment of Germany and maintenance of the Alliance." Moreover, they will try "to shift on to 'the masses' a large proportion of the burden of taxation." What they want is "protection and high productivity of labor."

The first problem for the workers is to determine their attitude toward increased productivity. This they should support because increased output is an indispensable condition of progress. Their second problem is to decide their attitude toward the State as controller of industry. The securing of their share of an increased productivity can not be left to economic tendencies but they must rely on the use of political strength. Hence the State must be made democratic and internationalism must take the place of the closed State.

Mr. Hobson's book is welcome to those familiar with his earlier volumes. In his theory he has in the past laid the greatest emphasis on distribution. The recognition in this volume of the importance of production in the near future is significant. How fully he may have anticipated the workers' attitude toward the problem is evident when one realizes the recent growth in the political activity of the Labor party of Great Britain and the statement of war aims just made by the Inter-Allied Labor Conference in London.

E. M. PATTERSON.

University of Pennsylvania.

KELLOGG, VERNON and TAYLOR, ALONZO E. *The Food Problem.* Pp. xiii, 213.
Price, \$1.25. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917.

This work may be looked upon, by reason of the reputation and experience of the authors, as the most authoritative presentation of the food problem yet made. The first part deals with the food situation of the Allies and the United States; the second part is given over to a technical description of the uses of food which is couched in simple and, at the same time, strictly scientific language.

It is hoped that the book will have a wide circulation. It should be invaluable to speakers in the spreading of knowledge regarding this most vital of all problems. The imperative need of our Allies for food is brought home forcibly. The saving of the required food lies in the voluntary acceptance of the necessities of the situation. Rationing the public cannot hope to succeed. "For, if a rationing system cannot succeed in Germany, it cannot hope to succeed anywhere." It is for this reason that the education of the public is so essential and it will take much of it to arouse people to the point of view that the greatest help they can render in winning this war is by eating corn and chicken instead of wheat and beef.

The authors lay special stress on the evils of profiteering. To those who are unable to visualize the situation, they give the following warning: "Whoso in war time demands 'business as usual' is acting contrary to the forces operating for success in carrying on the war; and yet the very men who so contend for 'busi-

ness as usual' in war time would not in the least hesitate to send their own sons to the front. They do not seem to realize that their behavior in the conduct of their business increases the risk of the lives of their own enlisted sons. The cattle raiser who wishes to take advantage of high speculation prices of livestock, the wheat grower who desires to obtain the profits to be derived from unrestricted competitive buying by the frenzied nation at war, the laborer who attempts to force the highest wage on the basis of supply and demand, and the coal operator who capitalizes the contest between industrial and fireside demands for coal, all fail to visualize the situation as it actually exists and do not realize that their point of view jeopardizes the successful carrying on the war."

H. R. M. LANDIS.

Philadelphia, Pa.

NICHOLSON, J. SHIELD. *War Finance.* Pp. xxiv, 480. Price 10s, 6d. London: P. S. King and Son, Ltd., 1917.

This is a collection of articles written for various publications, particularly the *Scotsman*, from 1912 to 1917 inclusive. The title *War Finance*, is applicable to most of the papers but is not entirely accurate for all of them. Some of the views expressed by Professor Nicholson in the earlier articles must necessarily be modified in the light of later events, but his general contention expressed in the preface is defended throughout and is worth quoting as a summary of the book:

"The root evil of our financial policy has been the extravagant payment made by the state for all the services required for the War, whether of capital or labour—always excepting the labour of the actual fighting. The extravagance has only been made possible by inflation. The fruits of the evil are the waste of national resources, the increase in the inequities of distribution, and, worst of all, a degradation of the soul of the nation."

E. M. P.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

FREUND, ERNST. *Standards of American Legislation.* Pp. xx, 327. Price, \$1.50. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1917.

The failure of the common law to adjust itself readily to changing social conditions has set for legislation the task of giving more immediate legal effect to new concepts of right and wrong, and of the public good. Social legislation, in working to this end, has been retarded by adverse decisions of the courts asserting unconstitutionality under the due-process clause. The violation of the right is found, not in the fact of regulation, but that the regulation is unreasonable. The boundaries of the field of rights protected by this clause are nowhere defined with precision. What is applied as a test in such cases is not a fixed but a variable standard called reasonableness. It is a sliding scale, the length of which at any application depends upon the social and economic views of the persons at the moment composing the court. It is not, then, a test of principle but of policy which is applied. This policy is implied and hence is judge-made, and is indefinite in extent. Furthermore, the judicial test is destructive, not constructive.